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April 9, 2009

Mario Boltri
Vice President
Alco Electronics Ltd.
7185 Woodmore Ct.
Lockport, NY 14094

Dear Mr. Boltri:

We write with respect to the digital television (DTV) transition and the TV Converter Box Coupon Program. At a March 26, 2009, hearing of the Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, there was concern that the supply of coupon-eligible converter boxes (CECBs) would be inadequate to meet demand. Specifically, estimates provided to the Subcommittee of the number of CECBs that would be purchased between April and June would appear to underestimate demand if current converter box coupon redemption rates hold.

We seek information that will enable us to determine whether there will be an adequate supply of CECBs to satisfy demand. This is particularly important because the DTV Delay Act, which extended the DTV transition deadline from February 17, 2009, to June 12, 2009, not only gave households more time to order converter box coupons, but also allowed households to apply for replacement coupons if their existing coupons expired without being redeemed.

We ask that your company, a certified manufacturer of CECBs and a partner in the DTV transition, respond to the following questions by April 24, 2009. We also ask that you provide updates to your response every three weeks thereafter.


1. How many CECBs has your company produced in each month beginning November 1, 2008, through the end of the most recent calendar month?
2. Since February 1, 2009, has your company received new orders from retailers or distributors for CECBs? If so, for each week beginning with February 1, please indicate how many units have been ordered, when they will be shipped and when they should be available at retail.

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3. Does your company anticipate that it will receive new orders for CECBs from retailers and distributors between now and October 31, 2009? If so, please provide your demand forecast for each month between now and October 31. Please also indicate how many CECBs your company anticipates shipping in each of those months and when they should be available at retail.
4. What is the maximum number of CECBs your company could manufacture between April 1, 2009, and June 12, 2009?
5. What is the maximum number of CECBs your company could ship between April 1, 2009, and June 12, 2009?
6. What is the maximum number of CECBs your company should be able to make available at retail between April 1, 2009, and June 12, 2009?
7. Are you confident that your company will be able to manufacture enough CECBs to meet demand between now and October 31, 2009?

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued partnership in the DTV transition. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Amy Levine or Tim Powderly at 202-226-2424.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Chairman



Rick Boucher
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications,
Technology, and the Internet

cc: Joe Barton
Ranking Member

Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications,
Technology, and the Internet